GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1372
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2003
FREE MOBILE TELEPHONE FACILITIES
P.D. ELANGOVAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plans to provide free mobile telephone facilities to the blind and physically handicapped persons with adequate safety precautions;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have studied the problems and major issues of communication sector after the advent of private telecommunication companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SMT. SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) & (d): The Telecommunication Service sector has been opened up for private sector participation in respect of telecom services without any restriction on the number of private operators, except where there is constraint of frequency spectrum viz., Cellular Mobile Telephone Service in which the number of operators is limited. Therefore, a large number of private companies have been issued licences for various services. These companies bring up their problems/issues, which is an on-going process and these are resolved from time to time.